

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 2, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

## Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 32

**Introduced by Assembly Member Lowenthal**

(~~Coauthor: Assembly Member Rendon~~ *Coauthors: Assembly Members Rendon, Achadjian, Alejo, Allen, Ammiano, Bigelow, Bloom, Blumenfield, Bocanegra, Bonilla, Bonta, Bradford, Brown, Buchanan, Ian Calderon, Campos, Chau, Chávez, Chesbro, Conway, Cooley, Daly, Dickinson, Fong, Fox, Frazier, Beth Gaines, Garcia, Gatto, Gomez, Gordon, Grove, Hagman, Harkey, Roger Hernández, Holden, Jones-Sawyer, Levine, Linder, Logue, Maienschein, Medina, Melendez, Mitchell, Mullin, Muratsuchi, Nestande, Pan, Patterson, Perea, John A. Pérez, V. Manuel Pérez, Quirk-Silva, Salas, Skinner, Stone, Ting, Torres, Wagner, Weber, Wieckowski, Wilk, and Yamada*)

(Coauthor: Senator Wright)

March 12, 2013

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 32—Relative to Building and Safety Month.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 32, as amended, Lowenthal. Building and Safety Month.

This measure would declare May 2013, Building and Safety Month and encourage all local governments to recognize the provisions in city and county government building and safety codes regulating illegal garage conversions as “Aviles Law.”

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, In neighborhoods and workplaces across the State  
2 of California, professionals throughout government and private  
3 industries work to implement building safety solutions that  
4 strengthen resilience and meet community needs; and

5 WHEREAS, By designing and implementing state-of-the-art  
6 building safety, energy efficiency, and fire prevention codes and  
7 standards, governments and laws help save lives and prevent  
8 disruption in the wake of disasters and accidents; and

9 WHEREAS, Protecting our communities from fires, floods,  
10 earthquakes, severe storms, or other disasters, building safety  
11 professionals play a critical role in making California safe, strong,  
12 and sustainable; and

13 WHEREAS, Despite established building codes, a tragedy  
14 occurred in the City of Long Beach on December 14, 2007, in  
15 which three young sisters, Jasmine Aviles, Jocelyn Aviles, and  
16 Stephanie Aviles, lost their lives in a fire that occurred inside a  
17 garage that had been illegally converted into an apartment; and

18 WHEREAS, Immediately following the tragedy, the city  
19 commenced an aggressive code enforcement operation led by fire  
20 department officials and building and safety code enforcement  
21 investigators to identify structures that ignore rigid fire and building  
22 code standards to eliminate the use of illegally converted garages  
23 as living spaces; and

24 WHEREAS, To educate the public, reinforce the dangers of  
25 illegal garage conversions, and memorialize Jasmine Aviles,  
26 Jocelyn Aviles, and Stephanie Aviles, the City of Long Beach,  
27 with the support of the Aviles family, renamed municipal codes,  
28 recognizing those sections of the Long Beach Municipal Code  
29 relating to the abatement of illegal garage conversions as the  
30 “Aviles Law”; and

31 WHEREAS, Proper building and safety code enforcement,  
32 including those that regulate illegal garage conversion, may save  
33 lives; now, therefore, be it

34 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
35 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature declares May 2013,  
36 Building and Safety Month in the State of California and  
37 encourages all local governments to recognize the provisions in

- 1 city and county government building and safety codes regulating
- 2 illegal garage conversions as “Aviles Law.”

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